

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed May 31, 2005.

In the Office Action Summary, the Examiner indicated that claim 13 was objected to. Accordingly, claim 1 has been rewritten to include the limitations of claim 13, and the limitations of intervening claims 5 and 6. It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance. Claims 5, 6, and 13 are cancelled.


The drawings were objected to as failing to show the "operating means 70." Claim 1 has been rewritten to recite an "operating lever" rather than an "operating means." Operating lever 72 is identified in the drawings. Accordingly, all claimed elements are identified in the drawings. It is respectfully submitted that the objection to the drawings has been overcome. It is submitted that the corresponding objection to claims 1-8, 10 and 13 is likewise overcome.

It is respectfully requested that the withdrawal of claims 9, 11, and 12 be reconsidered. The present application describes two embodiments of the invention. In the first embodiment, illustrated in FIGS. 1-13, there is one lock member, while in the second embodiment, illustrated in FIGS. 14-18, there are two lock members. The structure and operation of the operating lever is described and illustrated in FIGS. 19-21, and recited in claims 9-10. As stated in paragraph 40 of the application, "It will be appreciated that while the specifics of the construction of the lock lever 72, spring wire 74, and hub member 50 have been set forth with respect to the second embodiment of the invention, such constructions are also applicable to the first embodiment of the invention described above." Accordingly, claims 9-10 recite further structural details of the embodiment recited in claim 1, both as originally set forth and as amended, such that withdrawal of claims 9-10 is not proper.

Claim 12 recites the chair of claim 1 wherein the chair is a synchro-tilt chair. As explained in the specification, paragraph 3, "synchro-tilt" is a common industry term used to describe chairs in which the seat portion is arranged to be lowered or raised at a different rate than the decline of the back portion, resulting in different angular movements of the back portion and the seat portion. Thus, claim 12 merely recites another feature of the chair of claim 1, such that the withdrawal of the claim is not proper.

As it is believed that all grounds of rejection and objections have been overcome, a Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully requested,


Sandra B. Weiss
Reg. No. 30,814
JONES DAY
77 West Wacker
Chicago, Illinois 60601-1692
(312) 782-3939